



St. Mary's Primary School Term 1 Newsletter 2017

Welcome to our first newsletter of this school year. As you will see, we have had a very busy first term.

OUR NEW P1 CLASS

We hope they all have a very happy time at St Mary's.



SCHOOL COUNCIL, ECO COMMITTEE & LIBRARIANS



School Council 2017-2018

Congratulations to:

Clíodhna & Hubert (P4), Niamh & Shane (P5),
JJ & Emma (P6), Cara & Thomas (P7)



Eco Committee 2017-2018

Congratulations to:

Cormac & Clíodhna (P4), Aimee & Shann (P5),
Conor & Maeve (P6), Charlie & Eimear (P7)



LIBRARIAN

Librarians 2017-2018

Congratulations to:

Nicole & Daniel (P4), Jake & Tiarna (P5),
Eilish & Charlie (P6), Ryan & Gabija (P7)



SCHOOL MASS

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us on 22nd September when Fr McWilliams celebrated our annual Mass to mark the beginning of the new school year. Once again, it was lovely to have so many of our parents join us in this celebration and we thank you for your continued support.



ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG

On 20th September the Causeway Coast, Glens & Heritage Trust invited our P6 & P7 classes to join a team of archaeologists from Queens University Belfast on an archaeological field trip at Cloghancor Megalith in Glenballyeamon



MAROON & WHITE DAY

Ruairí Óg sponsored a 'County Final Colouring Competition' which everyone in St Mary's took part in. Senior Hurlers, Martin Burke & Eoghan Campbell, came to St Mary's on Thursday 22nd September to judge the competition and give out the prizes. Everyone came to school in their Ruairí Óg colours to wish the Senior Hurlers 'Good Luck' in their County Final.



Well done to all our prize-winners and extra congratulations to Clodagh (P7) and Callum (P3) who won the overall prizes of two tickets to the Final. Unfortunately, the boys didn't win this year but we will have our flags flying again next year and hopefully the hurlers will come back to visit us.



MACMILLAN COFFEE AFTERNOON



THANK YOU

to everyone who supported our Macmillan Coffee Afternoon held on Wednesday 27th September 2017. We raised an amazing £570.35 which has been donated to Macmillan.





EUROPEAN LANGUAGE DAY



On 25th September every class focused on a different European country and their traditions. P1 & P2 had great fun dressing up in their European costumes.

P1 & P2 GARDENING



RADAR

Risk **A**voidance **D**anger **A**wareness **R**esource



On Monday 23rd October our P6 & P7 classes went to the RADAR Centre in Belfast. RADAR is Northern Ireland's first fully interactive, safety and life skills education centre. It has a full sized street scene with a house, bus, train, courtroom, prison cell, shop, police station, boat and much more. RADAR is interactive, informative and fun. It enables young people to explore dangerous situations in a risk free setting.



'ROAD OF HOPE' ANNUAL SHOE BOX APPEAL

On Friday 27th October Fiona Kelly from 'Road of Hope' came to collect our 151 shoeboxes. Fiona told us how happy the children and elderly people in Hungary & Romania would be when they received their shoebox filled with presents and love. Once again, thank you to all our Primary School & Nursery children and their families for their kindness.



HALLOWE'EN FUN AT ST MARY'S



This year we held a Fancy Dress Beetle Drive in school, congratulations to all our winners. Also, as part of the 'Ghost In The Glens' festival, storyteller Joe Brennan came to visit and entertained everyone in the Library with his Hallowe'en stories.

INDOOR HURLING & CAMOGIE TOURNAMENTS

Cumann Na mBunscol Indoor Hurling Blitz Cross & Passion College, Ballycastle 24th November 2017

Congratulations to:

Thomas, Oran, Charlie, Nicholas, Alex & Ryan
who represented St Mary's in the Indoor Blitz.
Well Done Boys!



Cumann Na mBunscol Indoor Camogie Blitz Cross & Passion College, Ballycastle 1st December 2017

Congratulations to:

Erin, Keeva, Kirsty, Emily, Cara, Orla & Maeve
who represented St Mary's in the Indoor Blitz.
Well Done Girls!



ULSTER COUNCIL COACH



Thank you to Christy Sheerin, Ulster GAA, who took 'Fundamentals' classes with P1, P2 & P3/4 each week, this term. We would like to wish Christy all the best in his new teaching career.



ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

Congratulations to this year's winners:

David - P1, Cayla - P2, Rachel - P3, Clíodhna - P4,
Meabh - P5, Éabha - P6 & Eimear - P7

Well Done Everyone!

Extra congratulations go to Eimear whose entry was chosen as the overall winner and her design was made into the official card used by St Mary's this year. You can see Eimear's design at the top of this Newsletter.



LIBRARY COMPETITION

Our School Librarians organised a quiz competition to raise funds to buy new books for the school library. Congratulations to the winners Eimear, Daniel, Gráinne, Kathleen, Aidan, Rachel, Cabhán, Clíodhna & Tiernán. The Librarians raised £62 to buy new library resources. Well done to everyone involved.



CHRISTMAS DINNER

We had our annual Christmas Dinner on 7th December – everyone had great fun, we even had a very special visitor who caused a lot of excitement in the dining hall. A massive thank you to Rosemary, Bernie & Helen who cooked a delicious dinner for everyone.



“PUPIL OF THE MONTH”

Very well done to everyone who received this award in Term 1.



September

Zoe P1, Tiernán P2, Cabhán P3,
Hubert P4, Grace P5, Maeve P6 & Cara P7



October

Niall P1, Annalea P2, Olivia P3,
Josh P4, Shane P5, Eilish P6 & Gabija P7



November

Khaden P1, Julia P2, Emily P3, Connlaodh P4,
Laoise P5, Kathleen P6 & Eimear P7



December

Zac P1, Harry P2, Clíodhna P3, Isaac P4,
Jake P5, Charlie P6 & Daniel P7

NATIVITY SCENE

Thank you so much to Mrs Katie Jamison who has very kindly restored our Nativity figures. Katie repaired and painted the figures. As you can see, she has done a fantastic job.



CHRISTMAS SHOW

Once again, our Christmas Show was a great success with our evening performance being sold out. The children certainly enjoyed taking part and everyone had a fantastic time. Well done to the teachers and classroom assistants who did a terrific job getting everything and everyone ready for the stage. Thank you to everyone who supplied costumes etc. there certainly was an amazing array of angels, animals, stars, celebs, soldiers, shepherds and Wise Men!!





PTA CHRISTMAS DRAW

Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to making our Annual PTA Draw a great success. Special thanks to all the local businesses who donated prizes and to our hardworking PTA members. The draw raised an amazing £650 which will go towards buying much needed resources for our school. The draw took place following the Christmas Show on Thursday 14th December and the prize-winners were:

£100	-	Christine McAfee
Kearney's Butchers	-	Aoibheann McNaughton
Brenda's Unisex Hair Salon	-	Majella McAuley Harris
Dilemma Make-Up & Beauty Studio	-	Éabha Delargy
Harry's Café, Bar, Bistro	-	Ronan McKeegan
Gillan's Chemist	-	Bronagh McAllister
Celtic Crafts	-	Charlie McAuley
Eurospar	-	Nicole Hamilton
Tin Sweets	-	Mandy Hamilton
Tin Sweets	-	Chloe McAuley
Wine & Sweets	-	Erin McNaughton
Wine & Sweets	-	Bernadette McKeegan
Wine	-	Rosemary Farrell
Wine	-	

ENROLMENT SEPTEMBER 2018

Application forms for enrolment to St Mary's Primary School & St Mary's Nursery Unit in September 2018 are now available from the School Office. Please note that the closing date for ALL applications is 12noon on Wednesday 10th January 2018.

LOST PROPERTY

The 'Lost Property' box is filling up again with school jumpers. If your child has misplaced their jumper please call to the Secretary's Office and check the 'Lost Property' box. Please can you ensure that ALL items of clothing are clearly marked with your child's name.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday 22nd December	School will close at 11.30am. There will be no break or dinners available.
Monday 8th January	New term begins.
Thursday 11th January	Pantomime "Peter Pan" at the Grand Opera House, Belfast



The Principal and Staff of St. Mary's would like to thank you for your support throughout this term and wish you all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Mrs Anne Smart
Principal

